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Mr. Bundy,

The German views of the latest fracas.

A version that Foy Kohler is the "culprit" is being given wide currency by the German Embassy staff here.

DEK:14



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WEST GERMAN COMMENT

REVIEW OF THE WEST GERMAN PRESS AND RADIO 10 MAY 62 G

MOST PAPERS REPORT THAT IN VIEW OF THE VIOLENT WESTERN REACTION TO CHANCELLOR ADENAUER'S BERLIN STATEMENTS FEDERAL PRESS CHIEF VON ECKARDT ON 9 MAY TRIED TO TONE DOWN ADENAUER'S REMARKS.

KOELNISCHE RUNDschau REPORTS THAT ALL BUNDESTAG GROUPS ARE GRAVELY CONCERNED OVER THE VIOLENT AMERICAN REACTION TO ADENAUER'S BERLIN STATEMENTS. ACCORDING TO THE PAPER ADENAUER IS BEING CRITICIZED EVEN WITHIN CDU CIRCLES.

FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE QUOTES AMERICAN OBSERVERS IN BONN AS ADMITTING THAT RUSK WAS RIGHT IN SAYING THAT NOTHING HAD BEEN ACHIEVED SO FAR. THIS DOES NOT MEAN, HOWEVER, THAT THE EAST-WEST TALKS SHOULD NOT BE CONTINUED.

ACCORDING TO RHEINISCHE POST, DUESSELDORF, IT IS BELIEVED IN BONN THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S CRITICAL REACTION TO ADENAUER'S STATEMENTS IN BERLIN WAS INSPIRED NOT BY RUSK BUT BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE MOHLER WHOSE CRITICAL ATTITUDE TOWARD THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC IS WELL KNOWN. WITH THE BONN LEAK REGARDING WASHINGTON'S BERLIN PLANS HAVING BEEN OVER-EMPHASIZED AND WITH THE FACT THAT WASHINGTON IS GIVING THE COLD SHOULDER TO GREWE, BONN NOW ASKS ITSELF WHETHER A CERTAIN GROUP IN WASHINGTON IS ATTEMPTING TO WEAKEN GERMAN INFLUENCE IN THE WEST.

NEUE RHEIN-ZEITUNG, COLOGNE, DUESSELDORF, DESCRIBES KENNEDY HIMSELF AS THE AUTHOR OF THE SHARP AND SARCASTIC DECLARATION OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

JAN REIFENBERG IN FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE PAINTS AN EXTREMELY DARK AND GLOOMY PICTURE OF GERMAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS. ADENAUER'S PUBLIC ATTEMPT TO TORPEDO WASHINGTON'S EFFORTS HAVE CAUSED FEELINGS OF DISGUST MUCH STRONGER THAN THE RECENT EXCITEMENT OVER THE LEAKS IN BONN, WRITES REIFENBERG.

VON BORCH IN DIE WELT REPORTS SPECULATION IN WASHINGTON THAT THE REAL CAUSE OF THE CURRENT DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN BONN AND WASHINGTON IS THE RIFT INSIDE THE BONN CABINET. BORCH SAYS THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS NOT THE SLIGHTEST DOUBTS THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO RECONCILE ADENAUER'S STATEMENTS WITH THE ATTITUDE TAKEN BY SCHROEDER IN ATHENS AFTER SCHROEDER'S TALKS WITH RUSK. THE EARLIER DIFFERENCES SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN OVERCOME. NOW ADENAUER OPENED THE RIFT AGAIN IN PUBLIC. IT IS FELT IN WASHINGTON THAT ADENAUER WENT FURTHER THAN DE GAULLE IN OBSTRUCTING WESTERN READINESS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. ACCORDING TO BORCH, THIS RUNS STRAIGHT AGAINST KENNEDY'S BASIC CONVICTIONS. IN VIEW OF THE GRAVE COMMITMENTS TAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES KENNEDY FEELS THAT HE OWES IT TO HIS PEOPLE AND TO PUBLIC OPINION IN THE WORLD TO SEEK CONTACTS. BORCH CONCLUDES BY STATING THAT GERMAN EXPERTS IN WASHINGTON FEEL THAT THE INTERNAL CONFLICT IN BONN REFLECTS THE ANTAGONISM BETWEEN THE CONSERVATIVE FORCES HEADED BY ADENAUER AND THE GROWING FORCES OF CHANGE AND TRANSFORMATION.

JOSEF MAURER NOTES OVER RADIO MUNICH THAT IN CONTRAST TO ADENAUER AND DE GAULLE, PRESIDENT KENNEDY NO LONGER THINKS MUCH OF A WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE SINCE HE SEES SOME OF THE WESTERN POSITIONS DWINDLING WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. MAURER POINTS OUT THAT IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT KENNEDY SEES NO END TO OBJECTIONS FROM BONN. RECENT DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND BONN SHOULD NOT BE DRAMATIZED. MAURER STATES, ADDING THAT SCHROEDER, BRENTANO, STRAUSS, AND THE OTHER VISITORS OF THE FDP AND THE SPD TO THE UNITED STATES AGREE THAT THE AMERICANS HAVE A FIRM STAND IN THE DECISIVE POINTS OF THEIR BERLIN PROGRAM AND WILL REMAIN FIRM. MAURER POINTS OUT THAT A SOBER ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION OF THE GERMANS IS NOW NECESSARY. 2a

REINHARD GERDES OVER RADIO MAINZ BELIEVES THAT MOSCOW HAS EVERY REASON TO GLOAT OVER THE RENEVED WASHINGTON-BONN TENSIONS WHICH STEW FROM MISTAKES MADE BY BOTH SIDES AND ARE DUE TO THE FAILURE OF AMERICAN AND GERMAN INTERESTS TO AGREE IN THE PROBLEM OF BERLIN. GERDES REGRETS THAT THE WEST IS SO OBVIOUSLY DIVIDED INTO TWO CAMPS--WASHINGTON AND LONDON ON ONE SIDE AND BONN AND PARIS ON THE OTHER. HE WONDERES WHETHER THE AMERICAN PROMISE STILL HOLDS TRUE THAT WASHINGTON WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY SOLUTION WHICH MIGHT VIOLATE THE INTERESTS OF ITS ALLIES. IF SO, RENEVED CONSULTATIONS AIMED AT A BINDING ACCORD WILL HAVE TO BE MADE. BONN SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT THE WEST CANNOT AFFORD WEST GERMAN-AMERICAN DISCORD, GERDES CAUTIONS.

DER TAGESSPIEGEL, BERLIN, FEELS THAT WHILE IT IS EXAGGERATED TO SPEAK OF AN OPEN BREACH BETWEEN THE TWO CAPITALS, IT CANNOT BE DENIED THAT THERE HAS BEEN QUITS A QUARREL. IN A CERTAIN WAY, THE PAPER CONTINUES, KENNEDY'S ASSUMPTION WAS CORRECT, BECAUSE ADENAUER NOT ONLY MADE THE REMARKS THAT CAUSED THE QUARREL BUT IN VARIOUS RESPECTS MADE IMPORTANT CONCESSIONS TO THE U.S. POINT OF VIEW, ESPECIALLY WHEN HE DEFENDED THE AMERICANS AGAINST THE ACCUSATION OF SEEKING A BERLIN SOLUTION IN RETURN FOR CONCESSIONS ON THE SECURITY QUESTION. THE LAMENT OVER HIS OTHER IDEAS DROWNED OUT THESE REALISTIC SENTENCES AND IT MUST BE HOPED THAT THE LATTER WILL FIND THE ATTENTION THEY DESERVE IN WASHINGTON.

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